

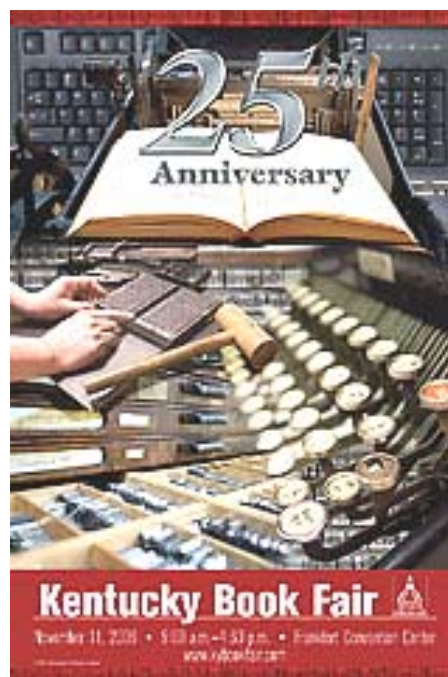
The Kentucky Book Fair Celebrates 25-Year Anniversary

Since its inception in 1981, the Kentucky Book Fair has been providing an opportunity for the public to meet, talk with, and purchase personally autographed books from authors residing here in Kentucky and throughout the country. This year's fair will be held Saturday, November 11th, 2006, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET at the Frankfort Convention Center.

The 2006 event is the 25th anniversary of the fair. It will continue this great tradition with a wonderful selection of authors as well as special symposiums and events for the kids. The fair is free and open to the public, and all book purchases are discounted 10%!

The Kentucky Book Fair has three key goals:

- To honor the profession of writing in the form of a one-day celebration
- To provide a format for authors to meet their reading public
- To raise money through the sale of books and donate all profits to mostly school and public libraries throughout Kentucky



Kentucky Book Fair Logo

The Book Fair is Kentucky's premier literary event and one of the largest of its kind in the nation. It is sponsored by the *The State Journal*, Frankfort's daily newspaper, and co-sponsored by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and the University Press of Kentucky.

Friends of Paul Sawyier Public Library and KDLA will sponsor their second annual seminar for members of public library friends groups and for individuals from libraries planning to organize friends groups. The event is from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Capital Plaza Hotel. Registration information is available from Carol Baughman—502-564-8300 x 264 or Carol.Baughman@ky.gov

A list of 2006 Book Fair authors is online: <http://www.kybookfair.com/2006/authors.php>.

KDLA Begins Transition to a New Era

Wayne Onkst, director of the Kenton County Public Library, has been named the new State Librarian and Commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA). He will be replacing retiring State Librarian and Commissioner James Nelson. Nelson is making history as he retires after 26 years of service in the state librarian position. Appointed in 1980, he is the longest serving Kentucky state librarian in the state's history and has served six Kentucky governors.



Retiring State Librarian James Nelson

"Jim's dedication to the state and his profession are evident when you consider the number of years he has spent in his job. We are truly proud of the fact that he is the longest serving state librarian in Kentucky's history and the second longest in the United States," said Governor Ernie Fletcher.

"For 26 years, Commissioner Nelson has displayed amazing talents and abilities in skillfully managing and preserving Kentucky's resources, records, collections, and oral and written history. He is an irreplaceable treasure chest of state knowledge, and I am grateful for his wonderful service to our commonwealth," said Kentucky Education Cabinet Secretary Laura E. Owens.

His nearly 40-year career in libraries and archives has garnered him numerous professional awards including the 2003 Kentucky Libraries Award and 2002 Innovation Award from the Kentucky Library Association; the 1997 Professional Achievement Award from the American Library Association and a 1985 Outstanding Alumnus Award from the University of Kentucky, College of Library and Information Science. Nelson received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Kentucky Library Association earlier this year for his outstanding service to libraries. A scholarship fund for students pursuing a Masters Degree in Library Science has also been established in his name.

Nelson has served on several national and state committees including the Legislative Research Commission committee which revised open records and open meetings laws to accommodate electronic records. He chaired the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) which serves nearly 2,700 libraries in 10 southeast states and the Caribbean.

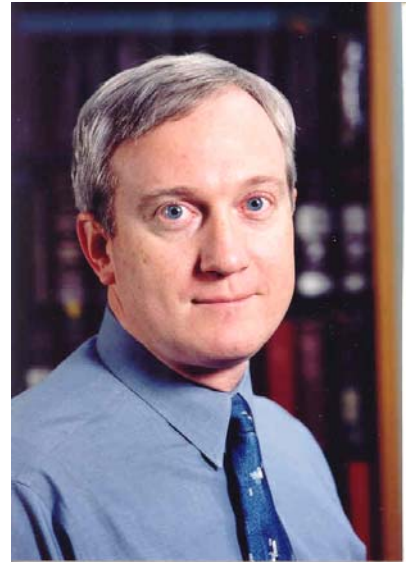
"My hope, first of all, is that the state's decision makers will come to appreciate the critical role that libraries have in moving the state forward. Kids go to libraries to do homework, teachers go to do research, and families go there to achieve a higher quality of life," he said.

Under his direction, Kentucky was one of the first states to start an electronic records management program to preserve items such as email, reports, budgets and documents of government activity. "We are one of the most progressive state agencies doing electronic records management," he said.

Wayne Onkst is making the transition to KDLA commissioner after a long term of service at a single institution as well. The London, Kentucky native has spent his entire 27-year-career with the Kenton County Public Library, and led the library system as director for the past seven years. He will begin his new duties as Kentucky's state librarian beginning November 16.

Onkst began his career as a reference librarian at the Kenton County Public Library after graduating from the University of Kentucky with a bachelor's degree in history in 1978 and a master's degree in library science in 1979. He also served as head of adult services and associate director of the library system before becoming library director in August 1999.

During his tenure as director of the Kenton County Public Library, Onkst guided the location and development of two major library branches costing \$17 million, and created the Kenton County Public Library Foundation. He also led a major expansion of the library's children and outreach services, and worked with Ashland Inc. to establish the "Racing to Read" program, which delivers materials to pre-school children in 35 sites throughout Kenton County. Under his leadership, the library also increased its annual circulation of materials from 1,337,209 to 1,950,794.



New State Librarian Wayne Onkst

In 2001 he received the Children Inc. award for "innovative services that imagine a better tomorrow for children" and in 2005 he was presented the Sullivan Award by the American Library Association for public library administrators supporting services to children. He is a graduate of Leadership Northern Kentucky (2001), former president of the Greater Cincinnati Library Consortium, and former chair of the Kentucky Public Library Association.

"I am delighted that Wayne Onkst will be heading the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. Wayne's expertise as both a librarian and historian make him an excellent choice to lead the agency. I know that Kentucky's invaluable archives are in good hands as our State Librarian Jim Nelson passes the mantle of the state's permanent records to Wayne Onkst, and he continues the important work of KDLA," said Kentucky Education Cabinet Secretary Laura E. Owens.

"Kentucky libraries provide valuable service to people across the Commonwealth. As the new state librarian, I look forward to working with the library community, state government, and citizens to enhance library services for all Kentuckians," Onkst said.

"Jim Nelson and the staff at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives have provided dedicated service in building Kentucky's libraries and preserving our heritage with the state archives. We will work to continue this mission in 'Serving Kentucky's Need to Know' and acquiring the additional space for preserving the state's permanent records."

KTBL 10-Squared Club

The Kentucky Talking Book Library inducted its first member into the 10² Club October 11. The 10² Club was started by the National Library Service for the Blind and



Mrs. Helen Pohl with First Lady Glenna Fletcher

Physically Handicapped in 2004 to recognize patrons who are over 100 years of age for their life-long love of reading. Mrs. Helen Pohl, who will be 103 in November, was honored in a ceremony held at The Lafayette at Country Place in Lexington.

Mrs. Pohl's love of books began when she was a young girl. There was no television or radio, so her family read together. "In my family, education was practically like a religion to us. I decided that if no-one ever loved me, I could always still read. I could always have that and it would always be my constant companion."

Mrs. Pohl's love of libraries began as an undergraduate student at the University of Minnesota, where she earned a BA in Dramatics and Speech, and continued while she earned her Masters Degree at Columbia University. She taught, acted, and directed plays in the drama department at the university until she married and had children.

When her children grew older, she taught high school literature for 16 years. After she retired, she became involved in the *Art Goes to School* program. She was not familiar with art and artists, so "I went to the public library and read everything they had on him (Renoir), and looked at all his work...Then I went to school and taught the kids all about it...if it wasn't for the library I couldn't ever have done it. Like I said, the library was my savior."

In the year since she has been a Talking Book user, Mrs. Pohl has read 62 books. She also receives books from the Lexington Public Library through its Book Buddies program and participates in the book club held twice a month at The Lafayette.

Kentucky's First Lady, Glenna Fletcher, attended the event and presented Mrs. Pohl with an Unbridled Spirit award. The Talking Book Library also presented her with a certificate and pin from the National Library Service, and some small gifts. Then, to the delight of the 50-60 in attendance, Mrs. Pohl recited "Little Orphan Annie" by James Whitcomb Riley. The event was covered by two Lexington television stations, and an article about Mrs. Pohl appeared in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* that morning.

The Talking Book Library will be inducting 3 more members into the 10² Club before the end of 2006, which is the 75th Anniversary of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

‘Cross the Commonwealth

Green County Public Library Genealogy Librarian Ruth Perkins was recently awarded the 2006 Outstanding Service to Genealogy Award presented by the Kentucky Genealogical Society Inc. It carries with it a brick in the *Pathway Through History* at the Kentucky History Center in Frankfort. The award was presented at a banquet during the Kentucky Genealogical Society's 32nd annual seminar.

The Fiscal Court of Letcher County has approved the award of two-hundred thousand dollars to the **Letcher County Public Library** Board of Trustees to renovate the Lillian Webb Memorial Library in Neon, Kentucky. This funding will come from coal severance tax money.

Knott County Public Library has purchased a color copier and new furniture with coal severance money.

Robertson County Public Library held a dedication ceremony on Friday, October 13th for the new LED Message Center located on the front lawn of the library. The sign was funded through a GOLD (Governor's Office for Local Development) grant.

The Friends of the **McCracken County Public Library** had a record-breaking summer book sale. The book sale raised nearly twelve thousand dollars for the library in two days.

Trigg County's **John L. Street Public Library** participated in the third annual Meet & Greet program at the Trigg County School on Monday, August 28th. Local organizations, institutions and businesses had booths which provide the students and their families with information on services available to them.



Robertson Co. Public Library's LED Message Center

The **Graves County Public Library** participated in the 2nd annual Gourd Patch Festival on Saturday, September 16th. The bookmobile was in the parade and later parked at the Mayfield Farmers Market.

Barren County's **Mary Wood Weldon Library** held an Open House on October 17. It included a tour of recent renovations and an opportunity for community input.

The **Monroe County Public Library** held an Open House on October 16, 2006, which is forty years to the day after their first Open House on October 16, 1966.

The newly remodeled Nancy Branch of the **Pulaski County Public Library** will host a grand re-opening on Saturday, November 4 beginning at 11:00 am.

James E. Lee, Jr. Receives James A. Nelson Advocacy Award

James E. Lee, Jr. received the James A. Nelson Advocacy Award at the Kentucky Library Association Conference in Louisville on September 28 for his advocacy efforts for libraries. Lee was appointed to the Lexington Public Library Advisory Board in 1980 and to the library's Board of Trustees in 1989. He served as board chairman from 2001 until 2005. He also served on the library foundation's board.



Pictured (left to right) James E. Lee, Kathleen Imhoff, Linda Kompanik and Commissioner James A. Nelson

During his tenure, Lee played an important role in the library's construction plans for a new Northside Branch, purchase and repair of the Lexington Public Library Parking Garage and formation of the Lexington Public Library Foundation. He also helped search for and hire Executive Director Kathleen Imhoff and furthered the library board's connections in the community, especially through his leadership role in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast. Lee's tenure on the library board ended in June 2006.

Kentucky Public Library Salary Survey

Recruiting and retaining high caliber staff is becoming increasingly more difficult due to the complexity and competition in today's business world. Trustees and library management need a guide to aid them in developing competitive salary and benefit packages for their employees. The Field Services Division of the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) conducted a survey of public library employee salaries and benefits in Kentucky in March 2006 to create such a guide.

Salary and benefit surveys are not unique. Where others used generic terms for a broad range of positions, only two or three positions, staff with a Masters in Library Science, or narrow demographic/budgetary characteristics to limit their survey, Field Service's survey was different. The "Kentucky Public Library 2006 Salary and Benefits Survey" grouped libraries into seven categories based on population served and asked for information in four areas: 1) major benefits offered; 2) number of hours considered full-time at a library; 3) base or starting salary per hour for a position; and 4) minimum education required for a position.

Out of a total of 116 public library districts in Kentucky, a total of 77 libraries responded with varying amounts of information on their salaries and benefits. The breakdown of respondents by population served is:

Under 15,000	25	30-50,000	12	70-100,000	6
15-30,000	25	50-70,000	6	Over 125,000	3

The results from the raw data provided by the participating libraries are available online at KDLA's website at <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/survey/salary-results.htm>. In some cases, information was provided based on anticipated "minimum education required" for the next employee hired into a position, salary if the library hired for a particular position, or the job title most descriptive of a library's existing position. Several libraries noted salaries for some positions were negotiable or the work was outsourced.

Upcoming Continuing Education Events

November

1	Dreamweaver	ONLINE
2	The KDLA Unworkshop: Three Conversations	Morehead
3	XML Fundamentals	Somerset
6	Portals: Beyond the Hype	Louisville
8	Xtreme Web Searching	Paducah
9	Employee Ethics	Hazard
13	Portals: Beyond the Hype	Lexington
14-15	Xtreme Web Searching	ONLINE
16	School and Public Library Partnerships	Hartford
27	School and Public Library Partnerships	Morehead
28	Employee Ethics	Eminence
29	Advanced Web Design with Cascading Style Sheets	ONLINE
30	Employee Ethics	Richmond

December

4	XML: An Overview	ONLINE
5-6	AACR and MARC for Videorecordings	Frankfort
7	Wireless & Mobile Technology	ONLINE
8	Podcasting for Libraries	ONLINE
12	HTML: Beyond the Basics	ONLINE

Visit <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged.htm> for information about these events.

Kentucky Public Library Newsletter is published bi-monthly by Field Services Division of Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives. Correspondence should be addressed to the editor, Michael Jones. Phone 502-564-8300, ext. 214; Fax 502-564-5773; e-mail: michael.jones@ky.gov.

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

Serving Kentucky's Need to Know
An agency of the Education Cabinet



The Kentucky Book Fair Celebrates 25 Year Anniversary	1
KDLA Begins Transition to a New Era	2-3
KTBL 10-Squared Club	4
'Cross the Commonwealth	5
James E. Lee, Jr. Receives James A. Nelson Advocacy Award	6
Kentucky Public Library Salary Survey	6-7
Upcoming Continuing Education Events	7

**Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
Green River Regional Office
450 Griffith Avenue
Owensboro, Ky 42301-3699**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
PLEASE FORWARD